

**REMARKS**

With the entry of the foregoing amendments, claims 8-16, 26-27, and 34-46 remain in this application. Applicant has cancelled claim 47 without prejudice. Applicant respectfully requests favorable consideration of the pending claims.

In response to the rejection of claims 8-16, 26-27, and 34-47 under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) or (e) as allegedly anticipated by or, in the alternative, under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as allegedly obvious over Horowitz (U.S. Patent No. 3,401,049, as applied to claims 8-10, 12-16 and 34), Horowitz et al (U.S. Patent No. 5,232,748) or Sanduja et al (U.S. Patent No. 6,368,369), applicant has amended its claims in order to clarify them, but without intending to give up or change their scope of subject matter. In this regard, applicant respectfully submits that the amended claims clearly distinguish over the cited art. As correctly inferred in paragraph number 6 on page 3 of the Office Action, the cited prior art does not disclose or suggest "a filter material coated with [the] particular composition." The pending claim sets, in different fashions, confirm that the claimed invention is a combination of filter material and a particular coating composition chemically grafted thereto. Thus, applicant submits that all claims are in condition for allowance and earnestly solicits a notice to that effect.

If the examiner has any questions concerning this case, the undersigned may be contacted at 703-816-4009.

SANDUJA, et al  
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Respectfully submitted,

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